

63-501

Administration

63-501.1 Disaster CalFresh Program Implementa- tion

When all or part of a county has been struck by a disaster, such as fire, earthquake, flood or other catastrophe, and ongoing CalFresh assistance cannot meet the needs of the eligible households, the County of San Diego (County) may apply for authorization to implement either full Disaster CalFresh, or modified Disaster CalFresh. The County must request authorization to operate Disaster CalFresh from Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Regional Disaster Task Force through the CalFresh Branch of the California Department of Social Services (CDSS).

In accordance with the Food Stamp Act of 1977 and the Disaster Relief Act, the Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Regional Disaster Task Force must authorize the Disaster Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (D-SNAP) and establish temporary eligibility standards for the duration of the disaster.

The disaster may be a major disaster, as determined by declaration of the President or a lesser disaster (Refer to Section 63-501.2 below).

The County's Disaster CalFresh Coordinator is the central point of contact with the Disaster CalFresh branch and other CDSS offices involved in Disaster CalFresh.

63-501.2 Types of Disasters

A “lesser disaster” means a disaster such as, but not limited to, a flood, fire, and other catastrophe or temporary emergency that has not been declared a major disaster but is severe enough to have disrupted commercial channels of food distribution, and affected a sufficient number of households so that the ongoing CalFresh cannot respond to their temporary food needs.

A “major disaster” means one of the following occurrences, which in the determination of the President causes damage of sufficient severity and magnitude to warrant major disaster assistance to supplement the efforts and available resources of states, local governments, and disaster relief organizations in alleviating the damage, loss, or suffering caused thereby: any natural catastrophe such as a hurricane, tornado, storm, high water, wind driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, drought; or regardless of cause, any fire, flood, or explosion.

63-501.3 Human Pandemic

A human pandemic is likely to receive a Presidential disaster declaration which provides the authority needed to approve State requests for a Disaster CalFresh. The Disaster CalFresh is likely to be the primary nutrition assistance response during a human pandemic for the following reasons:

- It enables a flexible response to a pandemic.
- It strengthens the nutrition assistance safety net through the provision of food that can be consumed at home rather than in congregate settings.
- It can provide maximum benefits for low income families with children to help compensate for the loss of free and reduced priced school and child care meals.

Refer to [63-504.5, Operation of Disaster CalFresh during Pandemic Conditions](#).

63-501.4 Purpose

The purpose of the CalFresh Program Guide Disaster Chapter is to provide regulations and direction on the process for administering and to facilitate implementation of Disaster CalFresh by eligibility and emergency response staff.

63-501.5 Comparison of Eligibility Standards for Disaster CalFresh and Regular CalFresh

Disaster CalFresh is an entirely different program from the regular CalFresh. The chart below compares the programs:

Eligibility Requirements	CalFresh	Disaster CalFresh
Disaster Status	N/A	Experienced an “adverse effect” as a result of a disaster (Refer to 63-506.4).
Identity of Applicants	Verified	Verified
Residency	Residency in San Diego County is verified as stated in 63-152 .	Living in a disaster area at the time of the disaster. Residency in disaster area is verified if possible. <i>County has the option to include households working in the disaster area.</i>

Household Composition	Individuals who purchase and prepare meals together as defined in 63-101 .	Persons living and eating together at the time of a disaster. <i>Does not include members of a household with whom applicants are temporarily staying during the disaster.</i>
Benefit amount	Varies. Calculate benefits according to 63-250 .	Maximum allotment for the household size.
Noncitizen Status	Citizenship is verified when questionable; noncitizen status is verified. 63-153 and 63-154	Citizenship and noncitizen status are not applicable.
Students	Student regulations according to 63-162 .	Student status is not applicable.
Social Security Number (SSN)	Failure to provide SSNs, or apply for a SSN may result in denial. 63-161	Failure to provide SSNs of household members does not result in denial. The County may request SSN on the Disaster CalFresh application, but the application cannot be denied for failure to provide a SSN.
Work Requirements	Yes.	No.
Resources	Non-excluded resources are evaluated. Resources of Categorical Eligible (CE) and Modified Categorical Eligible (MCE) eligible households are not evaluated. Refer to 63-120	No separate resource test. Accessible liquid resources and income added together to find Disaster Gross Income. Verified where possible.

**63-501.6
Certification
Sites**

As part of the efforts to reach communities most affected by the disaster the [Office of Emergency Services \(OES\)](#) may set-up [Local Assistance Centers \(LACs\)](#) that will be staffed with eligibility workers and clerical support to process the Disaster CalFresh applications and issue benefits. A LAC:

- Provides a centralized location for services and resource referrals for unmet needs, assistance and guidance following a disaster or significant emergency, and
- Is typically staffed and supported by local, state and federal agencies, as well as non-profit and voluntary organizations as appropriate.

Disaster CalFresh applications may also be processed at the Family Resource Centers (FRCs).

**63-501.7
Disaster
CalFresh
Reports**

The County will complete the following reports during and after the conclusion of Disaster CalFresh operations:

DAILY REPORTS	<p>The application/issuance site will prepare a daily report containing the following information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Number of households approved (new and ongoing)• Number of persons approved (new and ongoing)• Value of benefits approved (new and ongoing)• Average of benefit per household• Number of households denied• Replacement of CalFresh (approved, denied, number of persons and value of benefits approved)<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ The FRC/LAC will use the 09-88, CalFresh Disaster Relief Log, for the daily report.▪ Eligibility Operations will compile the 09-88 daily logs to report to CDSS on the Excel worksheet "San Diego County Disaster CalFresh Report" provided by CDSS.
FNS-292 REPORT	<p>The FNS-292 report will be completed by and submitted to FNS through CDSS as soon as possible after the conclusion of disaster</p>

	<p>operations, but no later than the 45th day after the closing of the designated disaster period.</p> <p>NOTE: Replacement benefits are not to be reported as Disaster CalFresh costs.</p>
FNS 388 REPORT	<p>State monthly issuance report. (CDSS completes this report to FNS)</p> <p>NOTE: Replacement benefits will be reported on this report.</p>

**63-501.8
Disaster
CalFresh
Desk Aid**

[Disaster CalFresh Desk Aid](#)
(10/2016)

**63-501.9
County of
San Diego
Disaster
CalFresh
Plan**

All counties must submit a yearly Disaster CalFresh plan outlining the county's roles and responsibilities, policies and procedures, and general certification process, in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. The Disaster CalFresh plan is intended to be an internal guide for county staff to use to ensure a coordinated disaster response and timely issuance of Disaster CalFresh benefits to affected disaster households. The Disaster CalFresh plan must be submitted to CDSS every year by June 30.

[County of San Diego Disaster CalFresh Plan](#)
